

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following claims:

33. A method for feeding a succession of fastening elements from a supply location toward a downstream location which is downstream from the supply location, the fastening elements being of the type having a central axis and two asymmetric ends, which comprises the steps of;

delivering successive fastening elements in a common orientation to a junction point;

arranging selectively to feed the fastening elements in the common orientation from the junction point either:

(a) in a first direction toward a first point downstream from the junction point; or

(b) in a second direction toward a second point downstream from the junction point, and

feeding successive fastening elements from the junction point toward the first point or the second point in the selected arrangement.

34. A method for feeding a succession of fastening elements from a supply location to a first downstream location or a second downstream location, both of which are downstream from the supply location, the fastening elements being of the type having a central axis, a first end and a second end, with the ends being asymmetric, which comprises the steps of;

delivering successive fastening elements in a common orientation to a junction point;

arranging selectively to feed the fastening elements in the common orientation from the junction point toward the first downstream location; or

arranging selectively to feed the fastening elements in the common orientation from the junction point toward the second downstream location; and

feeding successive fastening elements from the junction point toward the first downstream location or the second downstream location.